

Development Authority of Lumpkin County Meeting Minutes
April 21, 2015
Conference Room, Lumpkin County Administration Building

Board Members in attendance: Jim Curtis, Jason Cox, Jim Higdon, John Gaston, J. B. Jones, Kathy Crafton, JoAnne Taylor

Associate Members/Guests in attendance: Steve Gooch, Dee Harris, Joy Edelberg, Jane O’Gorman, Dewey Moye

Meeting called to order by Chairman Jim Higdon at 9:00 am

Motion to approve agenda: JoAnne Taylor. Second: Kathy Crafton. Motion carried.

Motion to approve March 17, 2015 minutes: J. B. Jones. Second: Jim Curtis. Motion carried.

Associate Members Reports:

Lumpkin County School Superintendent Dewey Moye reported the school system is still losing students but are on track to have 100% graduation rate this year. He noted the Lumpkin County Schools budget is lower than Dawson and White counties but our system is performing better than both.

Jane O’Gorman reported for UNG. She noted that plans for the new Convocation Center should be forthcoming thanks to Senator Gooch and legislature. She reported that UNG has been recognized as one of the most efficient university systems in the nation. Parents week will co-inside with Bear on the Square festival.

Financial Report – deferred. Reports not received from bookkeeper. Steve noted intent to meet with bookkeeping service to resolve timing issues.

Arcadia project update – Executive director Steve Gooch reported metal building has been ordered. He noted an area of concern with the soil test indicating the possibility of fill dirt. J.B. Jones reported that no fill dirt was deposited on the lot. He stated that at the time of development the area showed 100% compaction. Steve noted that Arcadia had decided not to fund the upstairs expansion. JoAnne Taylor asked who is the project manager from DALC. Steve answered the building committee and him. Once there is some construction the building committee can meet and inspect. Steve reported the Fieldale Building was under contract for the potential use for family entertainment or conference center.

Steve reported that DOT will be coming to evaluate Morrison Moore Parkway for the area in front of Steak n Shake. Kathy Crafton noted that the egress from GA 400 to square needs to be addressed. Steve noted that the city had written letters proposing a four lane but their area of interest is on private property. He said options are to extend GA 400 up Long Branch to Hwy 52

or to expand Auraria Rd and Hwy 9. We need to do long term planning. With new funding for DOT we need to plan now.

Steve remarked the Development Authority needs to be 100% supportive of UNG and spin the negative remarks about growth. The university is a very valuable asset to the community.

Arcadia Change Order #1

Change order is for window size/costs. Motion to approve change order #1: JoAnne Taylor. Second: J. B. Jones. John Gaston stated he didn't see the need for the change and subsequent cost increase. Kathy Crafton stated she thinks it is a wise move because it provides flexibility for the future. Vote to approve: Jason Cox, JoAnne Taylor, Jim Curtis, J. B. Jones, Kathy Crafton. Opposed: John Gaston. Motion carried by majority. Change order #1 was approved for \$2490.00.

In reference to the Arcadia ground breaking, JoAnne Taylor noted the article was short. She suggested someone expand upon the processes that went into to project. Members discussed the 'grocery store' article as well. Steve asked JoAnne to work on an article about the Development Authority's efforts to attract businesses that led to the Arcadia project. She agreed.

Members and guests discussed the property tax digest and school revenues.

Motion to adjourn: Jim Curtis. Second: JoAnne Taylor. Meeting adjourned at 10:34 am.

Approved